SUBJECTS.

every likelihood of the urgent works being discriminated and attended to.

Dewan's reply.—The views of the Member are noted.

41. *Annual provision of funds for irrigation works.*

Mr. T. Kesava Pillai (Member, Neyyatinkara Taluk) said that the taluk, which he represented, contributed a large increase of revenue to the State as a result of the settlement. Still, in the matter of irrigation works, it had been allowed to remain in a backward condition all along. Till the year 1074, a sum of about Rs. 5,000 used to be annually allotted for the taluk. But, after that year, no irrigation work was done in the taluk. He said that, if the Kodayar Right Bank Channel were cut as far as possible, it would afford great relief to the ryots, but till that was done, a reasonable amount should be provided in the budget every year for the improvement of the existing canals and irrigation tanks in the taluk.

Dewan's reply.—The views of the Member are noted.

V.—Revenue and Finance.

42. *Reduction of the export duty on copra.*

Mr. Devan Krishnan Karthavu (Member, Shertallay Taluk) said that, under the Notification dated 10th June 1907, the export duty on copra was raised, as a tentative measure for three years, from 1st Mithunam 1082. As the price of cocoanuts had considerably fallen since then, he requested that the duty on the article might be reduced.

Dewan's reply.—Till the expiry of the tentative period of three years, the question cannot be considered.

43. *Sale of impure salt at cost price for purposes of manure.*

Mr. Raman Karunakaran (Member, Parur Taluk) said that experience showed that ordinary salt, if applied to the roots of cocoanut trees, acted as good manure. But it was difficult for the people to purchase large quantities of salt at the price at which it was being sold, for the purpose of using it as manure. In the allams where salt was manufactured, a good quantity of impure salt was at present being thrown out as not useful for any purpose. He suggested that it would be an encouragement to the cocoanut industry, if arrangements could be made for the sale of the impure salt at cost price to the cocoanut cultivators from all the bankshalls where common salt was sold. The only objection that could be raised to the proposal was the possible consumption of the impure salt by people and the consequent loss of reve-

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